



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition

New
England



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Week ending April 3, 2016

*Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS*

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Fair week for field work: New England averaged 1.5 days suitable for field work last week.

The past week in New England started out with warmer temperatures, transitioning to colder temperatures at the end of the week, with snow, sleet, freezing rain, and high winds reported in some locations. Average weekly temperatures ranged from three to twelve degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.58 to 3.68 inches. Maple sap was still flowing in some states last week. In Connecticut, cover crops were reported to be in great condition and growing vigorously. In Massachusetts, cranberry farmers were performing maintenance to irrigation systems to prepare for frost protection and maintenance of drainage ditches. The recent cooler temperatures have helped to hold the cranberry buds in dormancy. In New Hampshire, some apples were at silver bud stage and a few were showing green. Peaches were beginning to swell, but it was reported that not many flower buds survived the winter. Throughout the region, orchardists were busy pruning and chopping brush in orchards. Some growers were seeding vegetables and flowers in greenhouses and preparing vegetable fields. Farmers were busy repairing fences, cleaning up farm stands, and spreading manure on fields.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 3, 2016
(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	2	53	45
SUBSOIL	0	3	69	28

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on **"Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."**

April 3, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	64	29	44	+6	1.46	3	0.48	+0.12	2	9	+9	29
	Bangor_Intl_Air	58	28	42	+6	1.00	4	0.30	-0.04	2	5	+5	25
	Bethel	69	26	43	+7	0.86	3	0.28	-0.11	2	10	+10	30
	Bridgton	72	25	42	+7	0.99	3	0.28	-0.14	2	10	+10	30
	Caribou_Municip	54	16	37	+6	2.32	5	0.95	+0.71	3	0	0	7
	Dover-Foxcroft	65	24	39	+8	1.83	4	0.53	+0.17	3	0	0	16
	Durham	70	27	43	+5	1.47	3	0.36	-0.09	2	11	+11	31
	East_Surry	56	19	41	+4	1.44	5	0.73	+0.29	3	1	+1	16
	Eustis	64	20	38	+9	1.56	4	0.58	+0.28	3	0	0	18
	Frenchville	51	17	34	+5	1.17	4	0.63	+0.39	3	0	0	1
	Harmony	64	23	41	+8	1.55	3	0.40	+0.01	2	1	+1	21
	Houlton	62	20	39	+7	2.22	5	0.31	+0.04	3	0	0	15
	Livermore_Falls	67	23	41	+8	1.34	3	0.30	-0.12	2	7	+7	27
	Millinocket_Wtr	61	24	37	+5	1.45	4	0.09	-0.24	2	0	0	10
	Moosehead	62	22	39	+10	1.45	4	0.34	+0.01	2	0	0	18
	Portland_ME	72	24	45	+7	1.06	3	0.14	-0.28	2	17	+17	38
	Rangeley_2NW	63	18	36	+7	1.36	4	0.55	+0.22	3	0	0	13
	Sanford	73	23	43	+4	1.30	3	0.42	-0.04	2	15	+15	35
	Topsfield_2	59	22	37	+4	1.45	4	0.28	-0.05	2	0	0	14
	Turner	67	28	42	+3	1.80	3	0.59	+0.14	2	9	+9	29
	Wesley_2W	60	18	39	+5	1.15	2	0.40	+0.01	1	0	0	17
	West_Rockport	62	27	41	+5	1.13	3	0.37	-0.11	2	1	+1	21
	Whiting	58	26	40	+6	0.92	3	0.40	-0.08	2	0	0	19
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	69	22	41	+8	0.68	3	0.29	-0.01	2	7	+7	27
	Bradford_2	74	24	43	+4	1.02	2	0.24	-0.15	1	10	+10	30
	Colebrook	61	16	39	+6	1.51	5	1.01	+0.76	3	5	+5	23
	Concord	77	23	48	+10	0.80	4	0.21	-0.09	3	28	+28	49
	East_Milford	75	26	47	+7	1.00	4	0.33	-0.09	2	22	+22	43
	Epping	74	25	46	+6	1.30	3	0.57	+0.15	2	21	+21	41
	Errol_AP	66	18	38	+8	1.23	5	0.48	+0.21	2	0	0	19
	Greenville	71	26	43	+7	1.18	3	0.44	+0.08	2	15	+15	35
	Hancock	71	24	44	+6	1.37	4	0.47	+0.08	2	15	+15	35
	Jaffrey_Silver_	70	27	45	+9	1.44	3	0.55	+0.19	2	15	+15	35
	Jefferson	66	23	41	+6	1.06	3	0.44	+0.17	2	6	+6	26
	Keene_AG	74	21	45	+8	1.02	3	0.17	-0.16	2	13	+13	35
	Lakeport_2	70	28	44	+7	0.97	3	0.29	-0.04	2	12	+12	32
	Lebanon	71	19	46	+10	0.77	3	0.22	-0.05	2	18	+18	38
	North_Conway	70	25	43	+7	0.79	2	0.13	-0.29	1	11	+11	31
	Tamworth_4	70	21	41	+6	1.13	4	0.47	+0.04	3	9	+9	29
	Wolfeburro	69	30	45	+7	1.03	3	0.30	-0.03	2	12	+12	33
Vermont	Averill	57	11	35	+7	0.95	3	0.50	+0.20	2	0	0	5
	Bennington_AP	72	20	48	+12	0.71	3	0.20	-0.14	2	21	+21	41
	Burlington_Intl	67	24	48	+11	0.76	3	0.16	-0.11	2	16	+16	36
	Corinth	65	19	39	+4	0.64	2	0.26	+0.02	1	0	0	18
	Johnson_2N	65	20	41	+8	1.13	2	0.16	-0.14	1	6	+6	26
	Marlboro_Raws	70	24	43	+10	0.93	4	0.28	+0.04	2	10	+10	30
	Montpelier_AP	67	19	43	+9	0.58	3	0.26	+0.02	2	12	+12	32
	Newport_AG	63	21	40	+4	0.83	2	0.25	-0.05	1	2	+2	21

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	68	22	43	+8	0.96	2	0.18	-0.18	1	10	+10	30
	Rutland_AG	69	20	46	+8	1.06	5	0.33	+0.06	2	16	+16	36
	Springfield_VT	69	23	44	+10	0.72	2	0.34	-0.05	1	10	+10	30
	South_Lincoln	66	21	41	+10	1.17	3	0.45	+0.06	1	7	+7	27
	Sutton	59	19	38	+7	1.70	5	0.89	+0.62	3	0	0	16
	Walden	57	15	35	+4	1.40	3	0.88	+0.61	2	0	0	11
	Woodstock	70	21	44	+8	0.67	2	0.16	-0.17	1	11	+11	31
Massachusetts	Amherst	71	23	47	+7	1.00	2	0.35	-0.01	1	19	+19	42
	Barre_Falls_Dam	70	22	44	+7	1.68	5	0.62	+0.25	3	16	+16	36
	Bedford_Hanscom	73	26	49	+7	1.23	5	0.66	+0.24	3	25	+25	45
	Beverly_Ag	72	29	47	+5	0.97	3	0.40	-0.02	2	21	+21	46
	Birch_Hill_Dam	71	25	45	+7	1.64	3	0.55	+0.16	2	12	+12	32
	Boston_Logan_In	71	31	49	+6	1.25	3	0.84	+0.45	2	23	+23	45
	Chatham_AP	59	30	46	+6	2.28	3	1.50	+1.11	2	8	+8	29
	Chicopee_Westov	71	20	48	+9	1.00	4	0.26	-0.10	2	24	+24	45
	Edgartown	64	32	47	+6	2.48	5	1.24	+0.79	3	13	+13	34
	East_Brimfield_	69	26	46	+7	2.00	5	0.97	+0.52	3	15	+15	36
	Fitchburg	76	26	49	+9	0.90	2	0.21	-0.24	1	28	+28	49
	Greenfield	72	20	45	+5	0.89	5	0.39	+0.03	3	16	+16	36
	Hyannis_AP	63	32	47	+7	2.57	4	1.72	+1.33	3	11	+11	32
	Maynard	73	26	47	+6	1.37	4	0.52	+0.10	3	20	+20	41
	New_Bedford	64	30	47	+6	1.75	5	1.25	+0.80	3	14	+14	35
	Newburyport	70	24	45	+4	1.31	4	0.61	+0.19	3	17	+17	37
	North_Adams_Har	74	20	48	+12	0.90	3	0.29	-0.13	2	23	+23	43
	Norwood	72	22	49	+6	1.05	3	0.65	+0.23	2	26	+26	47
	Pittsfield	70	23	46	+8	0.77	3	0.34	-0.02	2	18	+18	38
	Plymouth	67	25	46	+4	1.63	4	1.14	+0.66	3	16	+16	36
	Taunton_4NW	71	28	47	+4	1.53	4	1.21	+0.76	3	15	+15	35
	Westfield_Barne	74	22	49	+11	0.67	3	0.11	-0.31	1	25	+25	47
	West_Otis	70	24	46	+10	1.16	5	0.56	+0.11	3	15	+15	36
	Worcester	68	27	45	+6	1.43	5	0.64	+0.24	3	17	+17	37
	Worthington	73	21	44	+8	0.82	4	0.30	-0.06	2	14	+14	34
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	58	31	46	+4	1.52	5	1.16	+0.71	3	6	+6	26
	Providence	70	30	48	+5	1.50	5	1.17	+0.72	3	20	+20	41
	Westerly-Wester	64	30	47	+5	1.54	5	1.22	+0.77	3	12	+12	34
	Woonsocket	71	27	47	+6	2.01	5	1.46	+1.01	3	18	+18	39
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	65	32	49	+5	1.52	5	0.95	+0.53	3	14	+14	36
	Danbury_AP	74	23	49	+7	1.24	5	0.70	+0.25	3	24	+24	45
	Hartford_Bradle	72	29	49	+6	1.20	5	0.57	+0.18	3	25	+25	46
	Meriden-Meriden	70	25	49	+8	1.52	4	1.04	+0.56	2	20	+20	41
	Norfolk	72	23	44	+7	0.69	3	0.36	-0.09	1	14	+14	34
	Norwich	69	31	47	+5	1.94	4	1.17	+0.69	2	14	+14	36
	Staffordville	68	24	44	+4	3.68	4	2.64	+2.19	3	12	+12	32
	Thomaston_Dam	69	23	46	+7	1.29	5	0.72	+0.27	3	16	+16	38
	West_Thompson_L	69	24	45	+5	2.27	5	1.56	+1.11	3	11	+11	31
	Willimantic	70	26	49	+9	2.18	5	1.27	+0.82	3	21	+21	42

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

ALL CT COUNTIES, Jude Boucher

Down to 17 degrees Fahrenheit midweek, maybe lower tonight. Four inches of snow with high winds yesterday, even more today. Apples that pushed with warm weather earlier may be in trouble. Vegetable growers are holding off planting until after this cold spell.

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Spreading manure and getting equipment ready for the planting season were the primary concerns on farms this week. Unseasonably warm weather had manure trucks rolling early. Last year's late fall and mild winter has cover crops in the best condition in years.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Changing weather conditions from warm with heavy rain, to temperatures 10 degrees below normal with snow, sleet, freezing rain and high winds. Dairy farms spreading manure on fields. Cover crop green and growing vigorously. Concern over freezing condition effect on fruit tree buds.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Fields are basically snow-free. Depending on the weather, we could have an early start.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Above average rainfall, with high winds this week. Below normal cold weather expected this week. Lows in the teens.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

After some nice winter, winter cold is returning.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Windy weather. The weather was in the 50s, then back to below freezing for a couple days.

MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

There were a couple of really nice days last week with about an inch of rain. Greenhouses are starting plants and farmers are getting itchy to get out into fields.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

The end of the week saw very high winds and warm temperatures on Thursday and Friday and below freezing with more high wind and snow on Sunday. Cranberry farmers are completing spring tasks including irrigation system maintenance (to prepare for frost protection) and maintenance of drainage ditches. Overall, cool temperatures are helping to hold the cranberry buds in dormancy, a welcome outcome since very cold temperatures will start this next week.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau

We experienced a week of fluctuating temperatures, with temperatures on Thursday and Friday well above average (by 20 plus degrees) and then plummeting temperatures on Sunday night to well below freezing and about 10 degrees below average. We experienced light rainfall on Monday and again towards the end of the week; and awoke to snow on Sunday morning. Reports were that maple sap was still flowing last week. Producers indicated that it was dark but still sweet.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Rain on and off as well as low temperatures (15-30 degrees) have returned. Snow is all gone, except for higher elevations. Seed starting houses are starting to fill up; not much happening out in the field yet, aside from pruning trees.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Several unseasonably warm days last week. Turning much colder over the weekend, currently snowing.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

The unseasonably warm conditions of a few days ago have returned to cold! Some tree species did flower last week. We may see freeze damage on those trees. Maple producers who did not pull their taps will likely get another run or two. Top soils remain frozen, but the frost is not down too deep. Some farms were field stacking manure and even spreading manure on a few fields.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Apples are at silver bud stage and few showing green. Peaches are beginning to swell; however, not many flower buds survived the winter (Feb 14 and 15 temperatures were at minus 15 degrees F). Pruning blueberry bushes, grape vines and raspberry patches. Orchardists are pruning, chopping brush in orchard or push pruning out of the orchards. Greenhouses are started where grower are plant plugs and liners along while seeding vegetables and flowers. Hauling manure to fields. Getting equipment repair and purchasing supplies for spring work and the growing season. Some farmers started fixing pasture fences.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Growers transitioning from winter to spring growing, but still picking a lot of winter greens including overwintered spinach. Preparing vegetable fields. Pruning apples, some other tree fruit types and blueberries. Fixing fences and cleaning up farm stands. From warm weather to very cold temperatures in the last 24 hours. On the weekend, some localized gusty winds potentially up to 40 mph. The week saw rain and some warmer days.

RHODE ISLAND**ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart**

Because of early in the season and the cold weather extending into April, there has been minimal field work. It is snowing today, with up to 6 inches expected in the northern part of the State. Temperatures are expected to be in the teens for the next couple of nights. Greenhouse plantings have begun, including basil, tomatoes and peppers. Weather permitting, potato growers are hoping to start planting in the fields next week.

VERMONT**FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Manure Ban is now lifted in Franklin County, Vermont; however, caution needs to be used for any must-manure applications. Fields are still frozen and wet. The bumper crop for sugar makers has come to be and barrels for bulk syrup sales are few and far between. Grasses are beginning to show some life and the adequate moisture and some warm weather will bring on a welcome site of green grass.